

MINUTES OF THE
MAG MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
November 5, 2003
MAG Office Building - Saguaro Room
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Terry Ellis, Peoria, Chair	Horatio Skeete, Litchfield Park
Mike Hutchinson, Vice Chair, Mesa	Tom Martinsen, Paradise Valley
# Bryant Powell for George Hoffman, Apache Junction	Frank Fairbanks, Phoenix
David Fitzhugh for Todd Hileman, Avondale	# Cynthia Seelhammer, Queen Creek
Joe Blanton, Buckeye	Jacob Moore for Bryan Meyers, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
Jon Pearson, Carefree	Jan Dolan, Scottsdale
Usama Abujbarah, Cave Creek	Jim Rumpeltes, Surprise
Pat McDermott, Chandler	Randy Gross for Will Manley, Tempe
Paige Webster for BJ Cornwall, El Mirage	Reyes Medrano for Ralph Velez, Tolleson
Tim Pickering, Fountain Hills	Shane Dille, Wickenburg
Beverly Turner, Gila Bend	Mark Fooks, Youngtown
Urban Giff, Gila River Indian Community	# Dale Buskirk for Victor Mendez, ADOT
George Pettit, Gilbert	Tom Buick for David Smith, Maricopa County
Ed Beasley, Glendale	Ken Driggs, Valley Metro/RPTA
Stephen Cleveland, Goodyear	
Tom Morales, Guadalupe	

*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

Participated by videoconference or telephone conference call.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Terry Ellis, at 12:10 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chairman Ellis stated that transit tickets were available from Valley Metro/RPTA for those using transit to come to the meeting. Parking validation was available from MAG staff for those who parked in the parking garage.

Chairman Ellis announced that Cynthia Seelhammer was attending the meeting via telephone conference call. Bryant Powell and Dale Buskirk were attending via videoconference call.

Chairman Ellis noted that materials for agenda items #7 and #10 were at each place.

3. Call to the Audience

Chairman Ellis stated that public comments have a three minute time limit and there is a timer to help the public with their presentations. When two minutes have elapsed, a yellow light will come on notifying the speaker that they have one minute to sum up. At the end of the three minute time period, a red light will come on. Chairman Ellis stated that for members of the audience who wish to speak, comment cards are available from the staff. Staff will then bring the cards to the Chairman. Chairman Ellis noted that in the past, citizens could speak only on any non-agenda item during Call to the Audience. Under the enhanced public comment policy, citizens will now be allowed to speak on any non-action item.

Chairman Ellis noted that no public comment cards had been turned in.

4. Executive Director's Report

Dennis Smith reported that the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee has reached agreement on a draft text of a bill to reauthorize TEA-21. The six-year reauthorization bill would fund highways through 2009 at \$221 billion, compared with Administration's level of \$201 billion and may increase to the Congressional Budget Resolution level of \$255 billion approved earlier this year. He indicated that no agreement has been reached on the formulas to be used for determining financing or the Minimum Guarantee funding, but the latter is likely to be 95 percent return to sender. Mr. Smith stated that the initial assessment reduces the MPO share of STP funding from 62.5 percent to 55.5 percent. Mr. Smith noted that markup by the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee is scheduled for November 12th.

Mr. Smith stated that MAG received a letter from the Governor regarding the Transportation Reauthorization Summit on May 28, 2003, and the adopted transportation priorities for Arizona. He mentioned that the MAG Regional Council adopted a Reauthorization Resolution on February 26, 2003, supporting Arizona's Priorities for Transportation.

Mr. Smith gave an update on the Urban Area Working Group. He stated that the deadline for the Strategy was extended to the end of December. Mr. Smith announced that a representative of the Working Group will present an update to the Regional Council at their meeting on December 3rd.

Mr. Smith stated that a meeting has been scheduled with the MAG Executive Committee, the PAG Regional Council, CAAG members, and ADOT representatives from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on November 20, 2003 at the Holiday Inn in Casa Grande to discuss legislative authority for the MAG Regional Transportation Plan. He noted that the Transportation Policy Committee Chair and Vice Chair have also been invited to the meeting. Chairman Ellis thanked Mr. Smith for his report. No questions from the Committee were noted.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Chairman Ellis stated that public comment will be received before taking action on the consent items. Each speaker is provided with a total of three minutes to comment on the consent agenda. After hearing public comments, any member of the Committee can request that an item be removed from the consent agenda and considered individually. Chairman Ellis stated that agenda items #5A through #5E were on the consent agenda. No comments from the Committee were noted.

Chairman Ellis recognized public comment from Mr. Crowley, who stated that he would have been at the meeting in time to comment under Call to the Audience, but he had taken transit. For agenda item #5B, he commented that the State funding for maintenance is inadequate, even with the \$279 million allocated in the Regional Transportation Plan. Mr. Crowley stated that he appreciated the funding mechanism and the cooperative effort of the resolution, but not all were represented at the meeting on mass transit and light rail held earlier in the day at Valley Metro. Mr. Crowley commented on agenda item #5D. He stated there will be serious growth in the West and Northwest parts of the Valley, but MAG's projections will not do anything for residents of the area. He stated that he appreciated the City of Peoria's comments about planning and having sufficient water to accommodate growth. Mr. Crowley commented on agenda item #5E. He stated that the Work Program and Budget have been amended five times over the past two years to accommodate the SR Beard contract. Chairman Ellis thanked Mr. Crowley for his comments.

Vice Chair Hutchinson moved to recommend approval of the consent agenda. Mr. Morales seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

5A. Approval of October 8, 2003 Meeting Minutes

The Management Committee, by consent, approved the October 8, 2003 meeting minutes.

5B. Maintenance Resolution

At the September 17, 2003 TPC meeting, \$279 million was included in the RTP for maintenance. This action was incorporated into the maintenance resolution that resulted from the meetings of the Maintenance Stakeholder Group. 1) Dedicate part of the extension of the half-cent sales tax for maintenance of the freeways: On September 17, 2003, the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) designated \$279 million of the half-cent sales tax to be dedicated for landscaping, litter control and sweeping maintenance for freeways designated in the Regional Transportation Plan for Maricopa County. This funding commitment is intended to supplement normal regional maintenance funding allocated by ADOT to ensure adequate maintenance of the freeway system. 2) Create a dedicated funding stream: MAG and ADOT can work together to create a long-term funding strategy and process that provides a dedicated funding stream for maintenance. Additionally, firewalls should be created to protect these funds. A formula can be developed to accomplish an equitable distribution of funds. A dedicated funding stream can be accomplished through a variety of means, including: a) Working with the Governor, Legislature and JLBC to explore options such as consideration for designating a portion of the

Highway User Revenue Funds (HURF) for maintenance statewide and/or consideration for allocating a portion of Vehicle License Tax for maintenance. b) Discretionary funds – Consider supplementing maintenance funding deficiencies by earmarking ADOT discretionary funds. Working together, MAG and ADOT can develop a plan to shift a portion of available funds so that there will be a dedicated set-aside for maintenance. 3) Track maintenance expenditures through the Annual Report for the MAG Regional Freeway Program and increase communication on the budget process: Arizona Revised Statutes 28-6354 charges MAG with the responsibility of developing an annual report for the MAG Regional Freeway Program. This report reviews the fiscal status of the Program, reports on the progress made over the past year, and identifies major issues or concerns that could impact the Program. MAG is also required to hold public hearings to share the findings and solicit input. Through this resolution, MAG will add to the reporting requirements the status of maintenance expenditures within the region. By tracking these expenditures in the Annual Report, there will be more public input and dialogue in the process. Additionally, better communication and clarification of the maintenance budgeting process are needed in order for all stakeholders (MAG member agencies, State Transportation Board, Legislators and the Governor) to understand the process. There needs to be increased communication as to how capital, aesthetic and safety needs are reflected in the maintenance category. This would allow all stakeholders to participate in discussions when budgetary decisions are being made. 4) Partnering between ADOT and cities to encourage Adopt-a-Highway sponsors: MAG member agencies will work to find and encourage corporate participants for ADOT's Sponsored Adopt-a-Highway Program. Annually, ADOT will provide a map of the regional freeway system that notes which sections are available for sponsorship. 5) Develop a long-term litter prevention program: Research provided by Arizona Clean and Beautiful suggests that prevention programs can change public perception and habits regarding litter. Programs targeted at public education and litter prevention, such as litter fine signing, publications and brochures, videos for public service announcements and municipal cable channels, should be developed from various funding sources. Litter generating fees and taxes should be evaluated as a long-term solution. On October 15, 2003, the Transportation Policy Committee recommended approval of the maintenance resolution.

5C. Proposed 2004 Revisions to MAG Standard Specifications and Details for Public Works Construction

The MAG Standard Specifications and Details for Public Works Construction represent the best professional thinking of representatives of several Public Works Departments and are reviewed and refined by members of the construction industry. They were written to fulfill the need for uniform rules governing public works construction performed for Maricopa County and the various cities and public agencies in the county. It further fulfills the need for adequate standards by the smaller communities and agencies who could not afford to promulgate such standards for themselves. The MAG Standard Specifications and Details Committee has completed its 2003 review of proposed revisions to the MAG publication. A summary of these recommendations has also been sent to MAG Public Works Directors, in addition to members of the Management Committee, for review for a period of one month. If no objections to any of the proposed revisions have been suggested within the month review time frame, then the proposed revisions will be regarded as approved and formal changes to the printed and electronic copies will be

released. It is anticipated that the annual update packet will be available for purchase in early January 2004.

5D. Draft MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Amendment for the Town of Buckeye Festival Ranch Water Reclamation Facility

The Management Committee, by consent, recommended approval of the proposed Town of Buckeye Festival Ranch Water Reclamation Facility as part of the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan. The Town of Buckeye has requested that MAG amend the 208 Water Quality Management Plan to include the Festival Ranch Water Reclamation Facility with an ultimate capacity of 4.0 million gallons per day. Reclaimed water from the facility would be disposed through reuse, recharge and a discharge to Wagner Wash through an Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit. The City of Surprise and the Maricopa County unincorporated area are within three miles of the project, and both have indicated they do not object to the proposed facility. An Executive Summary and Clean Water Act Section 208 Checklist for the draft 208 Plan Amendment were included in the agenda materials.

5E. Amendment to the FY 2004 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to Accept Additional Federal Transit Administration Funding

The Management Committee, by consent, recommended approval of an amendment to the FY 2004 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to add \$21,270 in FY 2003 Federal Transit Administration 5303 planning funds. The Arizona Department of Transportation has notified MAG that the amount of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5303 planning funds for 2003 has been increased by \$21,270. This funding needs to be added to the FY 2004 MAG Work Program.

6. Regional Transportation Plan Update

Mr. Smith stated that the TPC will be reviewing policy concepts at their November 12, 2003 meeting. He noted that the Plan will need to be certified to the Legislature and the Governor by the end of the month. Eric Anderson stated that the air quality analysis has been completed and a special Regional Council meeting is scheduled for noon, November 25, 2003, when action by the Regional Council is anticipated to certify the Plan to the Legislature and the Governor. Mr. Anderson updated the Committee on legislative activities, which include work on enabling legislation to hold the election on May 18, 2004, and safeguards, such as Life Cycle management and audit requirements. He stated that staff has given numerous presentations to legislators over the past month. Mr. Anderson reviewed the implementation process. He stated that the Life Cycle program management policies need to be rewritten to accommodate other transportation modes. In addition, work continues on various aspects of the implementation process, such as the cash flow modeling. Chairman Ellis thanked Mr. Smith and Mr. Anderson for their reports. No comments from the Committee were noted.

Chairman Ellis allowed Mr. Crowley time to comment on the Call to the Audience item, due to the speaking rule change on non-action items. Mr. Crowley commented that the Governor and the House of Representatives are signing on to the Regional Transportation Plan. He stated that

he had a problem with the Phoenix light rail project. Mr. Crowley explained that a 1990 study recommended that one half of the sales tax should go for rubber tired transit, however, most of the transit funding in the draft Plan goes to light rail. Mr. Crowley commented that light rail routes along 16th Street or 24th Street would end at the mountains, which leaves SR 51 as the only corridor for light rail. Mr. Crowley stated that a light rail route that runs from Phoenix to a shopping center is not regional. Mr. Crowley stated that the Yellow Line on Grand Avenue has been eliminated, because transit was not a part of the equation when ADOT was redesigning Grand Avenue. He stated that small communities, growth, and the entire County need to be considered in regard to transit, because the sales tax money is coming out of everyone's pocket. Mr. Crowley commented that it would be nice for transit to go to Komatke. Chairman Ellis thanked Mr. Crowley for his comments.

7. Finding of Conformity for the Draft Special FY 2004-2007 Transportation Improvement Program and Draft Regional Transportation Plan

Lindy Bauer addressed the Committee on the air quality conformity analysis for the draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). She stated that the Clean Air Act requires transportation plans, programs, and projects to conform to the purpose of the air quality plans and ensures that transportation activities do not cause violations of the air quality standards. Ms. Bauer explained the conformity requirements that must be met by the draft TIP and the RTP. She noted that the draft 2003 Conformity Analysis concludes that the TIP and RTP meet all applicable federal conformity requirements and are in conformance with applicable air quality plans. Ms. Bauer stated that the Conformity Analysis, TIP and RTP are available for a 30-day public review and comment period that began October 23rd, and will be followed by a public hearing on November 21st. Ms. Bauer stated that the MAG Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee is anticipated to make a recommendation on the conformity analysis on November 24th. Approval of the conformity finding by the Regional Council is required for MAG adoption of the TIP and RTP, and will be considered by the Regional Council at a special meeting on November 25th. Chairman Ellis thanked Ms. Bauer for her report and asked if there were questions.

Mr. Cleveland, Chair of the Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee, expressed his thanks to MAG staff for their work on this intensive effort over the past year. He also expressed appreciation to member agencies, the business community, and private interests who participated in the air quality discussion. Mr. Cleveland encouraged attendance at the November 21st public hearing.

Mr. Fairbanks expressed his appreciation to MAG staff. He commented that they did an outstanding job working through extremely technical material for conformity.

Chairman Ellis expressed his appreciation to staff and also to Mr. Cleveland for his work as Chair of the Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee.

Chairman Ellis recognized public comment from Mr. Crowley, who stated that he also appreciated staff's efforts, but the Governor's Brown Cloud Committee findings should also be considered. He stated that he had a problem that PM-2.5 is not being considered. Mr. Crowley

stated that in the past year we came close on many occasions to ozone violations. The gas pipeline problem happened at the same time, and the Governor allowed the bad gas to be brought in. Mr. Crowley asked if transit worked for members, and if so, did they use it? He stated that each person adding pollution destroys clean air for everyone. Mr. Crowley stated that 50 percent of the transit funds in the sales tax should go to rubber tired transit. Transit should be a 24-hour system, and circulators and connectors should be established within all communities. He stated that many small, outlying communities depend on the metro area's economic engine. Roadways are in those communities, so put transit on them. He commented that rural communities are the least dealt-with entities in the Regional Transportation Plan. Mr. Crowley stated that a transportation system that works for all is needed. Chairman Ellis thanked Mr. Crowley for his comments.

8. 2005 Population Options

Mr. Pettit, Chair of the Management Subcommittee on 2005 Population Options, stated that action on the census survey was tabled from the October meeting to the November meeting. He explained that a workshop was held October 24th to assist members in better understanding the Subcommittee's findings. Mr. Pettit stated that over the past year, the Subcommittee studied alternatives to a special census, which was determined to be prohibitively expensive. He stated that among the goals of the Subcommittee was to have a consistent level of population information for all member agencies, and to see how individual communities may have changed since the 2000 census. Mr. Pettit noted that the basis for the cost of the survey is defined by the Census Bureau and not developed by staff. He explained that the Subcommittee modified the formula for distributing the costs because using sampling imposes a cost burden on some of the smaller and slower growing jurisdictions. Mr. Pettit stated that the Subcommittee's recommendation represents the best compromise that could be made. He expressed caution on deferring action, since a recommendation needed to be forwarded to the Census Bureau by March 2004. Chairman Ellis noted that this was the last Management Committee meeting for 2003.

Chairman Ellis brought up two options the Committee could consider: 1) Make a recommendation to the Regional Council today. 2) Refer the issue back to the Subcommittee by having them review the potential use of population estimates, which would involved no cost to member agencies. He asked Mr. Pettit for pros and cons on the two options.

Mr. Pettit commented that the DES process for deriving estimates may not be desirable. He gave as an example the DES method for the 2003 update of ages 0-18. They use two-year old school enrollment data to estimate the present population between 0-18 years of age. Mr. Pettit stated that this is a concern because ages 0-5 and those not enrolled in high school are left out. He advised that DES is unlikely to change their methodology, but the Subcommittee would work on this if the Management Committee so desired. Mr. Pettit stated that a workshop could be held to better understand how DES numbers are derived, but if the effort was to influence DES to change their methodology, that is something that staff has been unable to accomplish over the years.

Mr. Hutchinson moved to recommend approval of the undertaking of a region-wide Census Survey with the \$9.4 million cost to be distributed to member agencies. Mr. McDermott seconded.

Chairman Ellis called for discussion of the motion.

Mr. Gross reported that Mayor Neil Giuliano was concerned with this issue, and was unsure how he would vote when the issue was considered by the Regional Council. Mr. Gross stated that Mayor Giuliano is eager for discussion of the issue, but is unsure of the cost distribution. Mr. Gross stated that for this reason, he would be abstaining from the vote.

Mr. Moore stated that without a sense of the costs to his community to present to his Council, he would not be in a position to represent his community, and would therefore abstain from the vote. He commented that it is not that his community is not interested in the issue--they feel a census would be beneficial. Mr. Moore stated that based on the last census, his community is losing \$500,000 in housing funds, even though they have a list of 400 people waiting for homes.

Mr. Martinsen stated that he would be voting no on the motion. He advised that his Council had voted unanimously not to participate in a census survey, as the costs are presently allocated. Mr. Martinsen stated that this is a bad business deal for his town, and the cost allocation was derived from flawed methodology, which does not represent a balance between those communities who gain and those who lose. He indicated that he did not want to stand in the way of other communities proceeding with the census survey, and understood that FHWA will still provide funds if a small number of members withdraw.

Mr. Pickering commented that the issue for his town is not conducting the census survey, which they feel it is the right thing to do, but the distribution of costs. For example, Fountain Hills is expected to pay more than Gilbert. He commented that he could not see how the cost allocation was fair when the winners reap large rewards and his community might lose funds. Mr. Pickering stated that for his town to pay more than Gilbert, Avondale, or Goodyear would not be a good compromise. He indicated that his town did not want to stand in the way of the census survey, but it does not have the money to pay the \$150,000 cost. Mr. Pickering noted that the town has decreased its staff by one-third over the past year, and does not have the funds to put toward the survey when they will not realize an increase in revenue. He indicated that he would support the survey if a higher threshold for distribution was changed from 6,000 to 25,000.

Mr. McDermott commented that the fact is that revenue is distributed according to the population factor. He noted that Gilbert is not receiving their fair share now. As a matter of equity, it is appropriate to have a mid-decade census, so cities whose population has increased receive more funds. Mr. McDermott stated that he understood the feeling that it is a bad business deal to give up the money an agency already has, but the share of money is based on population. He expressed that he felt that a mid-decade census survey was a good thing to do, and do consistently. Mr. McDermott stated that cities will change, and those that gain this time may lose the next.

Mr. Beasley commented that there was some merit in the suggestion to meet with DES. He commented that he would like to understand the options for appeal or adjustment. Mr. Beasley

stated that the use of DES estimates is a system available to MAG, and he was unsure there had been ample opportunity to arrive at a conclusion. He indicated that he did not feel he could go back to his City Council and explain the difference between what the DES estimates and the census survey could do for his city. Mr. Beasley commented that it is a matter of basic economics. To pay money to lose money is a stretch, while subsidizing those who will gain money. Mr. Beasley stated that he supported moving forward with the survey, but wanted the opportunity to understand what DES provides.

Mr. Dille stated that he spent significant time considering how the formula was derived and the costs, and found it difficult to find another solution. He expressed appreciation for the Subcommittee's hard work in arriving at their recommendation. Mr. Dille stated that the census has to be approached with a regional perspective. He stated that he was the one who requested that this item be tabled at the October meeting, because he was approaching it from his city's point. If a city looks at it from this perspective, it can be difficult to accept. Mr. Dille indicated that he was ready to support the census survey. From a regional perspective, he felt it was a good practice and would ensure that those impacted by growth get a fair share of revenue.

Mr. Morales expressed his support for the motion. He commented that according to the 2000 Census, his town lost population between 1990 and 2000. With the many articles about explosive growth in the minority population, he was sure that his community was undercounted in the 2000 census. Mr. Morales stated that the DES numbers do not do his community justice. He indicated his agreement to look at the survey from a regional aspect, because more will benefit than lose. Those who opt to use the DES numbers will be in the minority. Mr. Morales stated that Guadalupe would pay the full cost on its own because it would pay to get that revenue.

Mr. Skeete commented that he has been around for ten years, and he keeps hearing that the DES numbers are unreliable. Mr. Skeete stated that he felt this issue needed to be discussed by the Management Committee to determine a solution so MAG can have confidence in the DES numbers. He commented that this region is three-quarters of the state's population, and he had a hard time understanding why MAG could not influence DES to approach the calculation with a methodology more agreeable to MAG. Mr. Skeete stated that he wanted to move forward with the census survey, and also to work with DES to improve the numbers so we do not continue to have this problem.

Mr. Fairbanks commented that the decision on the survey is a difficult one. He stated that on an absolute basis, Phoenix will lose about \$22.3 million per year. On a proportional basis, Phoenix will lose less funds than three or four other cities. Mr. Fairbanks commented that the census survey will give us the most accurate count we are able to have, so when the money is divided, it will truly reflect a city's population. He commented that the City of Phoenix has more harder-to-count populations than most other cities. Mr. Fairbanks stated that Phoenix is interested in utilizing DES estimates, but in the past, the city's population has been grossly undercounted. Mr. Fairbanks stated that Phoenix would support the DES estimates if there were a reasonable hope to have reliable estimates. Mr. Fairbanks noted that the Chair and staff have worked hard to improve the estimating process without substantive results. He indicated that he agreed to working with DES on studying how to accurately estimate population in order to

avoid having this problem in 10 years. Mr. Fairbanks stated that he would vote yes on the motion, but without a guarantee to get the best estimates from DES, Phoenix has no choice but to believe the survey is the best option.

Mr. Smith commented that the estimates on the distribution of population are done by member agency staff working with MAG staff, and using the MAG process, allocations are made to cities. He stated that the issue with the DES numbers is the control number, which is the entire number for the County. Mr. Smith stated that if you start with a lower control number, then you will have a lower fixed number that can be distributed to cities. He advised that historically, we have not put the burden of distributing state shared revenue on staff. Mr. Smith remarked that the process could become contentious. Mr. Smith mentioned that traditionally, the mid-decade census cleans up the problems with the decennial census. He commented that a door-to-door special census would be prohibitively expensive, and staff is unsure that could even be accomplished logistically. Mr. Smith stated that the Subcommittee labored for one year to determine that the census survey is the best option in between a special census and the DES estimates. He noted that smaller cities have the option to do a special census.

Mr. Moore added that in the breakdown on distribution of costs, the Indian Communities are not listed, and he assumed they were included in the balance of the County. In light of not knowing the cost to his community, he could not support a blank check for the survey. Mr. Moore mentioned that the tribes do not participate in the state revenue sharing by way of the transaction privilege tax (TPT), even though they pay into it. He stated that he would like to bring that up as an issue in the future, if the counties and cities support allowing the tribes to participate.

Chairman Ellis called for a vote on the motion. The motion passed to recommend approval of the undertaking of a region-wide Census Survey with the \$9.4 million cost to be distributed to member agencies, with Mr. Martinsen and Mr. Pickering voting no, and Mr. Giff, Mr. Moore, Mr. Gross, and Mr. Buskirk abstaining.

9. Draft Policies for the MAG Community Emergency Notification System

Harry Beck, Chief of the Mesa Fire Department and Chair of the 911 Oversight Team, stated that in January 2003, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality awarded a \$2.5 million contract to MAG to develop and operate a Community Emergency Notification System (CENS) program for the MAG region. He explained that the system, using the 911 database, will telephone the public with notifications of emergency situations. Chief Beck stated that a CENS Stakeholder Working Group of MAG member agency representatives was formed to ensure all interested parties had a voice in setting the policies to guide the CENS program. After several meetings, the Working Group reached a consensus that the system would be activated for emergency incidents only and that activation costs would be paid with the CENS program funds until January 1, 2005.

Chief Beck stated that on October 23, 2003, the 911 Oversight Team concurred with the Stakeholders, and restated that further refinements and review may take place on the policies during the first year of system operation. In addition, the Oversight Team formed a steering group that would offer guidance on system development. Chief Beck introduced Liz Hunt,

CENS Program Manager. Ms. Hunt reviewed the timeline for activation of the system. She stated that the first of three activation simulations has taken place successfully. Ms. Hunt stated that the public safety staff and PSAPs are being trained throughout the months of October and November. She stated that a press conference and final simulation are scheduled for December 4th. A public awareness campaign will be conducted throughout the month of December. Ms. Hunt stated that CENS will be fully operational by January 1, 2004; however, the system could be activated now in the event it was needed. Chairman Ellis thanked Chief Beck and Ms. Hunt for their presentations and asked if there were questions.

Mr. Rumpeltes asked for clarification of the calls made by CENS. Chief Beck replied that CENS would use the 911 database to make outgoing calls to land line telephones only, not to cell phones.

Mr. Cleveland moved to recommend approval of the draft policies for the MAG Community Emergency Notification System. Mr. Fairbanks seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Smith commented that the 911 system is an example of cities sitting down together and successfully working toward achieving a common goal. He stated that many years ago, the member agencies passed resolutions to support the City of Phoenix as the contracting agent for the 911 system. Mr. Smith stated that even though member agencies pay an assessment for this contract, the City of Phoenix provides considerable service and backing for 911.

Chairman Ellis noted that a public comment card had been turned in by Mr. Crowley. Mr. Crowley stated that he had turned in the card to express his support for the 911 program.

10. Update on Human Services Technical Committee and Human Services Coordinating Committee

Councilmember Dennis Cahill, Tempe, and Chair of the Human Services Coordinating Committee, addressed the Committee on planning priorities for the next 18 months that were established by the MAG Human Services Technical and Human Services Coordinating Committees. He noted that the Chair of the Human Services Technical Committee, Sandra Reagan, was present, as well as Mary Burke and Sharon Taylor-Ward from the IRS. Councilmember Cahill stated that Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is a federal program for low income workers with a valid social security number. He noted that up to \$4,204 can be received by a worker for 2003, and additional funds may be available as this credit could be applied for two years retroactively. He introduced representatives from the cities of Mesa, Tempe, and Phoenix, who provided reports on the success of the EITC program in their cities.

Nichole Ayoola, Mesa, stated that, through the program, more than \$260,000 in EITC funds were returned to Mesa residents in 2002. Their goal for the upcoming year is \$1.5 million. Kate Hanley, Tempe, noted that their program is a partnership with the Town of Guadalupe. For 2002, more than \$340,000 in EITC funds were returned to Tempe and Guadalupe residents. Ms. Hanley acknowledged the strong leadership of the elected officials and management to provide space, hardware, technical support and volunteer recruitment to the program. Wayne Tormala, Phoenix, stated that it is estimated that 35,000 Phoenix residents are not receiving the benefits of the program, which could amount to up to \$64 million of unclaimed EITC funds. He noted

that the city is targeting the South Phoenix and Maryvale areas this year. Mr. Tormala stated that this program benefits the entire region—the working poor, government, businesses, banks, and employers—by helping those workers pay monthly bills, purchase major items, and pay education costs.

Councilmember Cahill stated that public awareness, computers and volunteers are needed to successfully develop the EITC program. He noted that outreach to the public can be accomplished by inserts in paychecks, contacting community groups, and marketing through cable television, schools, and newsletters. Councilmember Cahill provided a draft timeline that could be followed by a city in implementing the program. He expressed his appreciation to Ms. Reagan, Ms. Burke, Ms. Taylor-Ward, Ms. Ayoola, Ms. Hanley, and Mr. Tormala.

Chairman Ellis expressed his appreciation for providing the information on the program to the Committee.

11. Status Update on the June 30, 2003 Single Audit and Management Letter Comments. MAG's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and OMB Circular A-133 Reports (i.e., "Single Audit") for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2003

Becky Kimbrough reported on the 2003 MAG financial audit. She stated that the audit is presently incomplete, but to date, there are no reportable conditions, material weaknesses, management letter comments, or single audit findings, and an unqualified Audit Opinion is expected. Ms. Kimbrough stated that she would be reporting back to the Committee in January. She noted that for fiscal year 2003, MAG expenditures were approximately \$280,000 under budget. Chairman Ellis thanked Ms. Kimbrough for her report.

12. Comments from the Committee

An opportunity was provided for Management Committee members to present a brief summary of current events. The Management Committee is not allowed to propose, discuss, deliberate or take action at the meeting on any matter in the summary, unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

Chairman Ellis expressed his thanks to Mr. Pettit and the members of the Subcommittee on 2005 Population Options for their work. He extended his congratulations to the City of Glendale for bringing the Super Bowl to Arizona.

Mr. Rumpeltes announced that the City of Surprise was recruiting an Assistant City Manager.

Mr. Cleveland requested that the slide show on the EITC program be forwarded to members.

Mr. Morales extended his appreciation to Councilmember Cahill and Ms. Reagan for their work chairing the Human Services committees. He expressed his thanks to Councilmember Cahill for approaching him on a partnership between the City of Tempe and the Town of Guadalupe in the EITC program. Mr. Morales noted that the program has been very beneficial to his town

and he looked forward to the continued partnership with Tempe. He advised that communities not taking advantage of the program are losing a lot of money.

Mr. Dille requested assistance on a situation where a group has taken out a referendum against the Wickenburg Town Council's recommendation for an annexation. He noted that the people in this group opposing the annexation are not residents of the annexed area. Chairman Ellis suggested that Mr. Dille could consult with the MAG General Counsel.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary